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Senator Knox's Plans

Senator P. C. Knox, of Pennsylvania, after a visit to Marion, December 30, announced that he left the President-elect with the understanding that as soon as the extra session of Congress meets, in March or April, 1921, he will call for passage of the resolution which he introduced in 1920 and which President Wilson vetoed. This resolution in substance had the following aims:

1. Terminates the state of war declared to exist by joint resolution of Congress, April 6, 1917, between the United States and Germany.
2. Provides for the retention by the United States of all German property in the possession of the United States on April 6, 1917, or subsequently seized until (a) Congress makes disposition thereof; (b) until Germany by treaty provides for the satisfaction of all American claims; (c) by treaty, grants Americans favored-nation treatment; (d) until Germany confirms all fines, seizures, etc., made by the United States of German property during the war.
3. Requests the President to negotiate a treaty of amity and commerce with Germany.
4. Repeals all war legislation by Congress.
5. Provides that, until by treaty or acts of Congress it shall be determined otherwise, the United States does not waive its right under the Treaty of Versailles, the armistice of November 11, 1918, or any extensions or modifications thereof, stipulated for its benefit as one of the principal allied and associated powers.
6. Repeals Austrian war resolution.

President Harding, so Senator Knox says, will sign this resolution.

In addition, Senator Knox will suggest that Congress pass the following amendment to his original resolution:

It is the declared policy of the United States, in order to meet fully and fairly our obligations to ourselves and to the world, that, the freedom and peace of Europe being again threatened by any power or combination of powers, the United States will regard such a situation with grave concern, as a menace to its own peace and freedom, will consult with other powers affected with a view to devising means for the removal of such menace, and will, the necessity arising in the future, co-operate with the friends of civilization for its defense.

Commenting on the plan of an international court, he said that President-elect Harding's scheme contemplated a tribunal "entirely separate from the one set up in the League."

President Schurman's Impressions

Former President Schurman, of Cornell University, after a talk with Mr. Harding, January 11, said of the League policy of the incoming Executive that it would be based on "codification of international law, the establishment of a world court for the settlement of justiciable disputes, and the creation of a world conference for the conciliation of issues of a political or non-justiciable character." President Schurman thinks that no man living has such a correct sense of the aspirations and ambitions of the American people as has Mr. Harding.

Senator King's Resolution

On January 6 Senator King, of Utah, introduced a resolution calling for elimination of the Covenant of the League of Nations from the treaty, and then for ratification of the treaty by the United States in an amended form. His ground for such a proposition, he said, was the imperative necessity that terms of peace with Germany be no longer delayed. The resolution was referred to the Foreign Relations Committee.

ARMENIA AND THE UNITED STATES

On December 15 the State Department forwarded to the President of the Council of the League, in session in Geneva, the following communication:

The President has directed me to advise you that he has designated the Hon. Henry Morgenthau as his personal representative, who is prepared to proceed as soon as practicable to carry out his proffer of good offices and personal mediation in the matter of Armenia. The President, however, is still awaiting advices from the Council of the League as to the avenues through which his proffer should be conveyed and the parties with whom his representative should get in contact, as well as assurances that he may count upon the diplomatic and moral support of the principal powers represented on the Council of the League.

Mr. Morgenthau let it be known that on this errand he would pay his own expenses. Interviewed on the 19th, Mr. Morgenthau said that the fate of Armenia depended entirely upon the moral and diplomatic support of the allied nations of Europe and on their ability to discover some practical way of dealing not only with the Turkish people and its two factions, but also with the Soviet Government. He said that the Allies, if they conclude to recognize the Soviets, could easily make immunity for Armenia a condition, and that unless they do find some means of dealing with the elements now outside the diplomatic pale, the best efforts to save Armenia would probably fail.

This statement of the commissioner-designate drew forth the following comment from Mr. Jerome Landfield, a vigilant watcher of developments in the Near East and for some time connected with the Militarist Intelligence Bureau. He wrote to the *New York Times* a letter, from which we quote:

There is no question that the position of President Wilson and Mr. Morgenthau is exceedingly difficult. Armenia, after suffering untold horrors at the hands of the Turks, has now fallen into the clutches of the Bolsheviki, and the remnants of her people are now restricted to a very small area, without the shadow of independence. The great powers failed utterly in their plans for saving Armenia and the other States of the Caucasus, and now that the patient is at death's door they wash their hands of the matter and turn the case over to President Wilson. In accepting this hopeless task, he must realize that no military force is at his disposal to save Armenia, and he must also realize that no agreement entered into with the Soviet Government would be allowed by them to interfere with their plans for advancing to the east. Therefore, when Mr. Morgenthau suggests the recognition of the Soviet Government as the price of protecting the remnant of the Armenian people, he is proposing what amounts virtually to paying blackmail to Moscow, without the slightest guarantee of attaining his end. Such a proposal is too dangerous in its potentialities of harm to Europe to be seriously considered.

On December 23 the sovietized Armenia issued a statement indicating that, under complete Russian domination, it was to take the position of repudiating any debts owed by any government of the past, and there has been nothing since that date to indicate that the Russian grip on the government is to be released voluntarily or by revolt from within. Reports from Near East relief workers and American missionaries laboring in districts formerly Turkish, but now Russian, differ as to the sort of treatment that American altruists are getting from the Bolsheviki.

By a strange irony of history, at a time when the report has no especial pertinence, the President of the United States has placed in the hands of the League a document making formal recommendations as to the boundaries of the Arme-

nian State that the League might well some day decide to back with its support, moral or military. The report is the result of most careful study by an American commission summoned to Washington by the President; but unless the allied and associated powers find a way to break the present alliance of the Turkish Nationalists and the Russian Soviet Government, the Wilson report and other recommendations like it are of no more consequence than the paper upon which they are written. Armenia is being "protected" today by Russian power, and in a practical way that Great Britain and France cannot duplicate. Those of her sons who conspire against or who resist Russian rule, whether because it is Russian or whether because it is imposed authority, are finding the Soviet soldiery as remorseless in execution of the alleged guilty as ever the Turks were. It is said that already 12,000 resisters, men of character and intelligence, have been shot after drumhead trials.

The British Government's Suggestion

On January 4 the President of the Assembly of the League of Nations received a telegram from the British Premier, suggesting that President Wilson cable his instructions direct to the American commissioner at Constantinople. This suggestion is based on advices received from the British commissioners at Tiflis and Constantinople, and evidently is given hoping that the American commissioner would co-operate with them. The State Department announced, January 5, that the suggestion would not be accepted. President Wilson announces that he still awaits advice direct from the League's Council as to how he is to advise his commissioner to proceed.

SECRETARY COLBY VISITS SOUTHERN REPUBLICS

Secretary Colby, of the Department of State, carried on a battleship of the navy and accompanied by high naval, army, and civilian representatives of the people of the United States, left the country in December, bound for a round of courtesy calls in certain of the countries of South America—in Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina.

On arriving in Rio de Janeiro on the 21st the visitors were welcomed with much cordiality and lavish display by the Brazilian Government, and later by other leading cultural and commercial organizations of the capital city.

At the State banquet in honor of the guests, President Pessoa said:

Your visit is a source of much happiness to us. Your presence reminds me of the happy days I passed in the United States. The two continents of America, so great in the riches of nature, are bound by bonds of common ideals. By common destiny the two continents are devoted to culture and democracy. To complete the work of democratic civilization entered upon by North and South America, even yet more intimate relations are necessary between the peoples of the two continents.

We have much to learn from you. We not only see here your commercial citizens, but the visits of your statesmen remind us anew of our common political aims. For this reason we have received with great pleasure various North American statesmen and also yourself today. We welcome you not only because of your vigorous personality, but also for the high nature of the mission with which President Wilson has entrusted you. Personally, I never will forget my association with him in the Peace Conference, where his loyal friendship for and support of Brazil never failed.

I feel that I speak for all Brazil in toasting the greatness of the United States, our unbreakable friendship and the health of President Wilson and yourself.

On December 24 Secretary Colby and his aides formally bade farewell to their Brazilian hosts and set out for Montevideo, to be the guests of the State of Uruguay. The last day of their visit in Rio de Janeiro they were driven to the Chamber of Deputies, in the Monroe Palace, where the Secretary said:

Every man, woman, and child calling the republics of the Western Hemisphere home owes a debt of gratitude to Brazil for having perpetuated this impressive memorial as the tribute of civilization to democracy. Coming from the United States, which first promulgated the doctrine of the great American President, Monroe, every citizen of the United States must be thrilled to look at this palace and see in it a vindication of the policy which has made for the advancement and protection of the republics linked together by it. It is the hope of the people of my country that the bonds thus created by this doctrine shall never fail to command respect, secure the right to independence and liberty, and never prove irksome or be unjustly used to impair its unity or universal value.

Uruguay began to offer its hospitality on December 29. The Senate of the national legislature held a special session and Secretary Colby addressed the members. The evening of the same day President Brum gave a formal banquet in the Government House. Commenting on the Monroe Doctrine, the Secretary of State for the United States said:

I cannot understand how there can be any misconception, even the slightest, of the far-sighted, unselfish, and fraternal policy of the Monroe Doctrine, in the light of its century of useful service, not to this hemisphere alone, but to the world; for it must be remembered that no countries have so fully and so profitably participated in the fruitage of stable government, of unmolested national independence, and law-abiding liberty in South America as have the nations of Europe, to whom the declarations contained in the Monroe Doctrine are primarily intended to apply.

I have heard this venerable doctrine strangely distorted and variously characterized. The author of the somewhat discredited German policy of blood and iron called it an international impertinence, and a later critic has declared it to be an anachronism. That it should receive universal approval was probably too much to expect. That it is universally respected is doubtless enough.

And what was it originally and what has it ever been but a solemn affirmation by the United States of its belief in the capacity for self-government of each of the peoples of the Western Hemisphere and an equally solemn engagement to safeguard them to the extent of its power against interference from any quarter while forging ahead through the trials and vicissitudes which lie in the pathway of every nascent State?

Felicitous hospitality in manifold forms continued until the 31st, when a cruiser of the Argentine navy arrived and became the moving home of the Colby party en route to Buenos Aires.

Just before he left Montevideo, Mr. Colby said that the reason why the United States especially wished his mission to succeed was because of a very sincere desire on the part of the Administration and the people of the North to allay any feeling of mistrust that might exist against the United States, distrust which was manufactured to a considerable extent, he felt sure, by the propaganda of rivals.

One of the felicitous incidents of the stay in Montevideo was a visit to the tomb of José Artigas, a great Uruguayan jurist, where a wreath was laid, testifying to the respect of President Wilson for the great dead.